

*The Great Eclipse of the Sun,*

OR,

# CHARLES HIS WAIN E

Over-clouded,

By the evill *Influences* of the *Moon*, the malignancie of Ill-aspected *Planets*, and the Constellations of Retrograde and Irregular *Starres*.

Otherwise, Great CHARLES, our Gracious KING, Eclipsed by the destructive perswasions of His *Queen*, by the pernicious aspects of his *Cabbinet Counsell*, and by the subtil insinuations of the *Popish Faction*, *Priests*, *Jesuites* and others. As also from the firing of *Towns*, the shedding of *Innocent Blood*, and the *Cries* of his *Subjects*.



Conscience that checks th' poor man for his sinne,  
Heere plaies the *Ghost*, and tells our mis-lead KING,  
That firing houses, and his Subjects slaughter,  
Have so Eclips'd him, hee'l scince shine hereafter:  
For when by *Fire* and *Sword* Kings bloody prove,  
They loose at once their *Light*, and *Subjects* love.

Printed according to Order, by G. B. August. 30. 1644.

# The great Eclipse of the Sun.

O R

Charles his VVaine.



He Common-wealth may most fitly be compared to the Globe of the Heavens. The King is the *Sun*, the Parliament are the bright *Stars*; Malignant Counsellours to the King, are the evill aspected *Planets*, such as *Bristoll*, *Cottington*, Lord Keeper *Littleton*, *Digby*, *Jermyn*, and others, whereby the King hath been Eclipsed, and hath lost that Light which should render him Glorious in the eyes of his People, and brought himself to the lowest degree of respect amongst his Subjects; And whereas the King should have been a *Sun*, shining by example, and maintaining the *Light* of the *Gospel*, hee hath suffered it from the beginning of his Reigne, to be extinguished and put out; wee should have had no Gospel, nor any Faith but what the King and the Bishops would have forced upon us; This Plot was handsomely carried on by the Bishop of *Canterbury*, and had not our Brethren of *Scotland* been true, Popery had spread it self over this Kingdome, and long since we had been all Papists and slaves to the King and his Prerogative. For the King was eclipsed by the *Queen*, and she perswaded him that Darknesse was Light, and that it was better to be a Papist, then a Protestant, the Bishops affirmed as much, and the Learned Divines Preached good *Romane* Doctrine at Court, and cring'd and bow'd in the pulpit, flatter'd the King, pray'd for the *Queen*, and so got advancement to be Prebends and Deanes of great Cathedrall Churches. The Judges put out the Light of the Kings understanding, by telling him, *That he had an unbounded Prerogative*; The Court Politicians informed him that Monopolies and Taxes would make his Subjects obedient, that such milde beginnings of slavery would make the people fit and apt for subjection, and that the Counsell-Table would be a terrour to those that were stubborne, and the High Commission Court and Star-chamber would serve to Fine, and punish offenders. The light of the Kings understanding being thus Eclipsed, and the eyes of the Protestant Religion being put out, we must have grop'd out the way to heaven through Catholike blindness, without any light at all, unlesse it were the *Wax Candles* burning on the Altar, or the Light of Meriting by giving Almes; and the Bishops told the King, it was true Religion

tion to pray unto the Lady *Mary*, and be rul'd by his little *Queen Mary*, for this was no Idolatry, but the way to increase his Royall Off-spring, and Progeny, whereupon the King being in full Conjunction with this *Papish Planet*, the Queen, hee was totally Eclipsed by her Counsell, who under the Royall Curtaines, perswaded him to advance the Plots of the Catholikes, under the colour of maintaining the *Protestant Religion*. Ordinary women, can in the Night time perswade their husbands to give them new Gowns or Petticotes, and make them grant their desire; and could not Catholick *Queen Mary* (think ye) by her night discourses, encline the King to Popery? and make him beleeve that he had no true obedient Subiects, but Catholikes, that there was no salvation out of the Church of *Rome*, that his Maiesties Predecessors of famous memory were Catholiks, that the Universities desired the advancement of Popery, all their Colledges being built by Papists, that it was no disparagement for his Majesty to acknowledge the Supremacie of the Pope, while the *Roundheads* would take away his *Prerogative*, and therefore the his Maiestie should protect the Papists, and they would defend his Right, and pray for him as their supream Governour next under the Pope. The Queen having thus read a *Curtaine Lecture* to the King, hee began to be full of Fears and Jealousies, and to look with a discontented brow upon his Parliament, and came with a swaggering crew of Dammy-Cavaliers to the House of Commons, to take away the five Members, which opposed a hostile Act, being in vaine attempted, his Maiestie was perswaded, that his Person was in danger by the coming to Court of a swarming multitude (as he called them) of unpleasurably factious *Brownists*, *Anabaptists*, and *Roundheads*, and so forsaking the Parliament, hee fled downe from *London* to *York*, thinking by his presence to gaine the Love of his *Northern* Subiects, that is, The Catholikes and Delinquents in those parts, and so fell out with his Parliament and people, & would not Love them, that were sick of Love for him, but in his *Waine*, or Charriot (like *Phaerhon*) down he went, with his Evill Counsellors, that governed his affections, made him set *England* on fire, and engage it in the combustion of a civill warre; then he began to set on foot the illegall *Commission of Array*, and to get a Guard about him, as bigge as an Army, while his Maiestie made fine Speeches to the Maier of *Yorke*, and to the Gentry and Yeomen in that County, endeavouring to make the Parliament odious, and crying out for assistance against the Parliament, that would induce an Alteration of Government, and would all be Kings. The Ambitious Clergy, preach't very earnestly for the King; and contributed very largely to raise the King an Army, to maintaine his *Right*, and the *Protestant Religion*, but in deed to uphold the Usurping Bishops, who were then ready with *Lacifer*, to fall down even as low as Hell.

The Sun of Maiestie, being thus Eclipsed by Errour, by Evill Counsell, and by the Plots of Papists and Delinquents; has summoned by Proclamation, all the Malignants to assist him in raising a speedy warre against the Parliament, advising them, that as they intended Monarchy, and the true Protestant Religion, they should endeavour, under the colour of a Guard, to raise him a great Army.

Hereupon the Malignants began to move forward in a posture of warre against the

Parliament, the Gentry sided with his Maiestie, and the common people were compelled on by a blind affection to the Crowne.

The Bishops began also to bussell up themselves, and to stand for the King and Queene, they remembred that Kings and Queenes had ever been indulgent fathers and nursing mothers to the *Roman* Church, that unlesse they had a King to support their Lubberly Lordships, they could not be King in their owne Dioces over the rest of the Clergie; and besides the Parliament had voted them out of the House, and therefore they would with *St. Pauls* sword fight for the Pope; Bishop *Williams* somtimes Chancellor of *England*, got himselfe Armes, with a Sword and Gauntlet, to kill Round-heads; he saw his Bishoprick was not long liv'd, and hee would not live to see it tooke from him; he had rather be kill'd or hang'd, which he deserv'd and his other fellow Bishops, rather then be outed and cast out of his Dioces and fat Bishoprick; with these fat Bulls that were silent enough in their Pulpits, all the Malecontents ioynd, and all Protestors that by Monopolies had made *England* mourne in foule linen, not for her sinnes, but for want of soape, and some that had heard of *William* the Conquerour, would have King *Charles* be a Conquerour of his owne subiects; but it had beene better for him that he had Conquer'd himselfe, Conquer'd his own passion, subdu'd his affection to Poperie and subiected himselfe to reason, and come home unto his Parliament, then to be carried on by evil counsellours to shed the blood of his subiects, giving Commission to Prince *Rupert* to butcher and kill his subiects, and fire their houses; and all because they would not be slaves, or put on fetters being born unto freedom; but would rather have the King see his errors, and acknowledge what others see and know, and have felt by the rage of the Kings sword: O therefore let the King encline his Royall heart unto his people, and if he will be written valiant to posterity, let him I say, Conquer himself, and return from Rebels and Traitors that possesse him. It is the eye of Justice which they shun, and the Sword which they fear: But the King hath in this a Prerogative, that he must onely be try'd in *Foro Conscientia*, in the Court of his own Conscience, and no doubt but Mercie may weigh downe his sinnes, if he would yet put an end to these bloody Warres, and be friends with his Parliament and people; then he would shine againe in glory, but now at the case stands all the love and obedience shew'd him by his subiects by the hazard of their lives, to regain his Royall person, and to preserve their Liberties and Religion, are not at all regarded, and having lost the light of Reason, the light of Religion, and Morall humanity, he doth yet endeavour by the help of the Cavaliers, to cut a passage with the sword for the *Romish* religion to enter into *England*; yet it must march in upon the legs of the Protestant Religion, beare the same colours with it, and with Armies in the West, and Armies in the North all must be wasted and consum'd, and all the Protestants kill'd, and then the King and the Bishops and the Cavaleirs will alone maintain the Protestant Religion, and then there would be a strange new Government, if King *Charles* could subdue his subiects and bring them to slavery, he might be well called and stiled *William* the Conquerour; for he would have his will prefer'd above Law, and as it is in *France*, we should not have a bed, a dish, nay a spoone, or a stool to sit upon, but it might be

be taken from us for the Kings use, the Cavaleirs do shew you how it should be in *England*, they plunder and take away all they can finde, the goods of the Round-heads are their owne, they have the Kings Commission for it, and if they will not yeeld they will make them smöak for it, setting fire to the towne, and though the King be Eclips'd and not seen in these actions, yet he cannot walke nor ride so invisible but his hand hath been seen in these plundering firing Commissions, Signed with *C. R.* whereby wee may see, that *R.* which stands for the King is to be much blamed; for what the Cavaleirs do, may be said to be done by the King, if the Kings affections were not cruelly bent, the Cavaleirs actions would not be so bloody nor inhumane; but they know that all his Protestations to maintain the Protestant Religion were but complement, and that now hee is so darkned in true glory, that we had need to pray he may recover the light of his Scepter, and the love of his subiects, and therefore they will fight it out; desperate diseases must have desperate cures, and the King will pawne his Crowne (if he could get it from *Westminster*) to maintaine the Miter, and now fight Dog fight Bear, fight Cavaleir and fight Round-head, you have bark'd long enough at one another, and now the King will have you fight it out, though you fight him out of his Kingdome, and make him and his Cavaleirs flie downe Westward, as if his Maiestie had done some mischief, he knowes the Round-heads will make severe constructions of his proceedings, and that his will first carried him from his Parliament; but ther's a thing call'd Conscience that doth follow after the King and his Cavaleirs, faster then our Armies can doe, it doth bring in a Catalogue of crimes, and will twich the King by the heart and give him shrewd Items, it is worse then *Hamlets* Ghost; for it will haunt him every where, and cry unto him, O King expect revenge for the blood of thy subiects. VVho hath wasted, undone, and ruinated the most famous Kingdom of *England*? who hath fir'd the Towns, plunder'd, kill'd, and destroy'd his own subiects? who hath given Commission for it? who hath broke his word and his promises made in so many Declarations? who sent for the *Irish* rebels to come over to kill the Protestants, and who in all this war hath endeavour'd nothing but the maintaining of Popery and his own Prerogative, I fear Conscience doth tell his Maiesty it was King *Charles*, who hath for three years together and upward maintain'd an unnatural war against his Parliament and people? Conscience replies, King *Charles*? who went into *Spaine* to learn the Protestant religion, then return'd and married a Catholick Queene? who hath been a chief party in mischief against the Protestants? who harkned to Queene *Maries* counsell, and beleev'd it more then Gods word, and was angry and fought with his subiects, and 'tother day hang'd up fourteen Clothiers, was nor the King then present?

Did hee not come with an Armie from *Yorke*, which was all composed of Malignants and Delinquents that fled from the Parliament, and of Papiists, though His Maiestie promised their horses should have Protestant Riders, there were (as I said before) first the Bishops, or the Bishops Malignant money, which was sent in to pay Souldiers that should fight under the Popes Banner; and the lack-Latine Priests and Clergie contributed largely to the Kings Armie, fearing that for their ignorance and scandalous lives,



they should be thrust out of their Vicarages and Parsonages, and that the Parliament would put Religious Ministers in their places. The young flashing Gentry that had spent their father's Patrimony, in whoring and dicing, these would stake their fortune with the King, in hope to get estates and be Knighted for cutting the Protestants throats. The country people would have their old ways, their old fashions, and their old Religion, their old Homilies, which were better then Round-head Sermons, they would have Feasts and Rush-bearings in the North, and Saint days, and give Cakes for all Christen Souls on All-Soules day, and being Ingram people, halfe Papists and halfe Atheists, they would stand for the King and the old Common prayer Booke, as for the Gospel and the Parliament, they knew not what they were, but they were perswaded in their country consciences, they ought to honour and obey the King.

And thus with an Army of Malignant Nobilitie, Clergie, Gentry and Common people, the King came to *Kenton-field*, and in some houres space made the ground looke red with the blood of his Subjects, is it for this he now hides his face from us, is he ashamed that so many of his Subjects lives should be lost in one Field, I find no such matter in the Story, the King from this Field gets into the West, there to rest himselfe after he had done so good a dayes work in butchering his Subjects at *Kenton field*, where many thousands fell on both sides, as Sacrifices to his Prerogative.

But the King being now in the West, most of the Malignants coming in unto him, he had (as hee thought) an invincible Armie, and therefore hee was resolved, now with all crueltie to proceed against the Round-heads, and the Cavaliers proceeded in plundering and firing of Townes, and killing all Round-heads; for it was his Maiesties pleasure they should so doe; Alasse what needes the King hide himself from the sight of his Parliament, and his other Subjects, hee fights but to maintaine his will as a law, or a thing above the law called Prerogative: Can Maiestie shine glorious without crueltie? Let Subjects hate their King, so they feare him, a few evill Counsellours can protect him from all danger, and hath he not an Armie for a guard? It is then nothing but Conscience, this troublesome thing Conscience, that will be telling His Maiestie of his faults, and in despite of *Digby*, *Cottington*, and *Jermin*, will take the King alone, and charge the King with many cruell actions, that it hath rain'd blood all his raigne, that though the Pope and all the Devils in hell should encourage him in this bloody warre, yet it is unnaturall in the sight of God and man, that there is a Hell and Domes-day, and Damnation, as well for Kings, as poor Subjects, that when His Maiestie after a happy raigne should end his dayes in a good old age, and with the love and honour of his Subjects be laid into his grave, what can he expect who hath murthered so many of His Subjects, and laid them in their Graves: But alas King, flie not from this Conscience, hide not thy selfe, doe not flie from place to place before the Lord Generalls Armie: Loosing gamsters will change their places to change their luck, sick men will change their chambers, to change their diseases: But thou, O King, that wert wont to cure the Kings evill in thy Subjects, art now made a King of evill consequence and destruction to thy Kingdome, by the influence of evill Counsellours, the beames of Mercie, Pietie, Religion, Obedi-

bedience to the Lawes, Omnipotency in goodnesse, not badnesse, Will conformable to Gods Will, and thy Justice which should empale thy Brow, are took away from thee by the Cavaliers; so that thou dost not see, or if see, not pittie thy distressed Subiects, and as long as thou art thus affected, thus darkned in thy Royall Attributes, and wilt be only a King of Rebels and Cavaleirs, thou shalt be like unto *Noahs* Dove, not in innocency, but in flying from place to place, and shalt not finde a place to rest thy foot in, as long as this Deluge of blood doth overflow thy Kingdome.

But what a sawcie fellow is this Conscience? Canst thou not meddle with thy march, and tell poor men onely of their offences? Me thinkes thou should'st have little desire to follow the Kings campe, when thou wert formerly whipt out of his Court; and out of all the Courts of Justice; for hadst thou continued in this Kingdome, the Pope and his Majestie, and his Bishops could never have brought about their own ends: but when thou and Religion were banisht both together, then the Bishops began to laugh in their lawne sleeves, then they thought to have alter'd the Case, and to alter the Table, alter their Posture Preaching and Lordly titles, the little Bishop should have been a great Cardinall, and the other Bishops should have governed the Church more Roman, according to the Roman fashion, and it should have beene drest and trickt up with the images of *St. Anthony*, *St. Francis*, *St. Patrick*, *St. John of Jerusalem*, *St. Dominick*, and the *Lady Marie*; then Crosses, should have been new builded and painted over, there should have been little Preaching, unlesse they were Sermons of Libertie and freedom of sports upon the Sabbath-day. And the little Levites the small Lights of the Gospel, should have walked in cloakes downe to their shooes like *Jesuites*, being in the Universties *Jesuites* in heart as well as habit, the Star-chamber should then have censur'd Religious men to have their eares cut and clipt, as some were that suffer'd for thy sake; because Conscience would not permit them to see Poperie and blindnes brought into this land, to see the light of the Gospel Eclipsed and blowne out by the Divell and the Bishops; but Conscience what hast thou to do with Kings? may not they be flatter'd that they are Gods; but that thou must tell them they are but men? and that if they governe not their Subjects according to the known Lawes of the Land, and doe allow their Subjects their Rights and Liberties, seeking not to alter but maintaine their Religion, they are no better then wilfull bloody Tyrants. Is this thy blunt way of speaking unto Kings? Well as long as thou takest this course, and dost lay before the King his shame, his ertors, his spilling of blood, with a long Catalogue of private sinnes, never imagine that thou shalt rise in his favour, or be made a Bishop; for there was never any great Courtier, Bishop, Lord-Keeper, or any eminent States-man that was created Lord-Conscience, Bishop-Conscience, Lord-Keeper-Conscience; for as soone as they were advanced to these dignities they had no Conscience at all, but would take bribes in the way of golden thanks, for giving unjust judgement to the overthrow of the best causes.

Is it not a fault in thee Conscience that the King cannot rest in his chamber, but thou must make him see strange Dreames and Visions, as the battell at *Kenton-field*, where so much blood was spilt for the King; for this the King doth hide himselfe, is ashamed, and Eclips'd from the sight of his Subjects.

Why

Why dost thou tell him of his Commission of Array, arming his Subjects to kill one another? This is an old Story, must thou Conscience revive these matters in the Kings remembrance, and thereby seeke to Eclipse his fame and glory.

Cannot the Cavaleirs plunder the Kingdom all over, and fire Townes *cum privilegio* and shew the Kings hand, giving them Commission for it? but thou Conscience must make the Kings heart ake for it, and tell him this is the way to be counted a Tyrant, and to be Eclipsed in the love of his Subjects.

Must not his Maiestie favour Delinquent Lords: but thou Conscience must tell him they are evill Counsellours, and that he hath almost undone Himselfe and his Posteritie by being ruled by these Malignants, who know if the wars should cease, the block must expect them, or the gallowes, and therefore they will fight to defend the King from his Enemies, which indeed are themselves, and the King must fight against his Subjects to keep them from the hands of Justice, and by this the fame and renowne of King Charles is Eclipsed.

Cannot the King suffer the *Irish* to kill so many thousand Protestants, and then to make a Cessation of Armes with them, and to call them his Catholike subjects, and afterward to send for them by ten thousands at a time to aide him in this unnaturall war; But Conscience must tell the King that this is contrary to his Protestations of maintaining the Protestant Religion, when indeed this war was *Bellum Papale*, the Popes war, and the setting up of Popery was alwayes intended: doth not this cruelty, this false dealing, and bringing over and sending for *Irish* Rebels, Eclipse the glory of his Maiestie?

Conscience seems thus to reply, I fear neither King nor Subject; The King I tell you true is in a great Eclipse of light and love of his people, I have shak'd him up soundly, and told him that he mockt the people with a smooth pretence of the maintaining the Protestant Religion, that to defend Delinquents hee should not lay his Crowne at stake; for if he should loose that, he could not stake again, that the dye of war was uncertain, that in this war nothing was cerrain to his Maiestie but losse, losse of his credit, and perhaps the losse of his Kingdoms, that it was his fathers glory to write this for his Motto, *Beati Pacifici*: But his Motto will in succeeding Ages be writ in Characters of blood thus, *Maledicti Belligeri*, Cursed are the war-makers, That all the blood which hath been spilt will be laid unto his Maiesties charge: But the King is Eclipsed still, First, by the Queene in chamber Coniunction with her, and now since by Malignant Counsellors, he hath (with grieve be it written) no Light, no Reason, no Religion left, but all is Eclipsed, and there is nothing but God and his owne conscience that can discover unto him that great Eclipse of Light which hee now suffers in the West, the causes whereof have been here largely declared, and the King proved to be in a great Eclipse.

---

F I N I S.



on  
king

legi  
mo  
an

him  
ritie  
mul  
n ha  
ds to  
arls

en to  
after  
Bu  
ning  
d the  
the

you  
adly  
the  
ake;  
tain,  
per-  
tto,  
ood  
hath  
irst,  
cel-  
ill is  
onto  
reof